

FIELD STUDY OVERVIEW:

The following 4 field studies are being offered at the 2012 AREA Conference. All Field Study tours will take place on Thursday, October 25th and with travel time included, they will take $\frac{3}{4}$ to a full day.

The second page of your Conference Registration Form provides you with an opportunity to choose which Field Study you are interested in attending. (If you will not be attending any of the Field Studies, you are asked to also indicate this on your registration form.) This will help us determine the level of interest for each Field Study and the number and kind of vehicles we will need for each tour. There are some amazing choices and I am sorry that you are limited to one.

Field Study registration fees can be paid along with your Conference Registration fees or at any time before or when you check in at the conference. Your Field Study registration fee covers all transportation costs and Field Study costs including a box lunch provided by the Honey Baked Ham Company. You will have a variety of box lunches to choose from including vegetarian options. You will make these choices at the conference check in.

Canyon Lake Nature Tour on the Dolly Steamboat

[Canyon Lake Images of Canyon Lake](#) is the third link in a chain of the sparkling jewels of the Arizona desert. Experience a wildlife narrated tour through Saguaro Lake and Canyon Lake area landscapes upon arrival to Canyon Lake Marina. The Dolly Steam Boat Tour of Canyon Lake is an unforgettable experience through weathered canyons with narrow cliffs rising to over 1000 feet. Big horn sheep, bald eagles and a host of other wildlife are viewed daily from the decks of the Dolly! Participants will take a 1 ½ hour narrated nature cruise on the 103' long vessel powered by twin 225 HP John Deere marine diesel engines. Your guide and host for the Canyon Lake Tour will be Randy Babb, Information and Education Program Manager, Region 6 Office in Mesa, Arizona.

5 to 30 participants

\$35.00-Includes registration fee and boarding fee for the Dolly Steamboat (Box Lunch Provided)

Fossil Creek Study Tour and Fishing for Roundtail Chub *(Two hour travel time in each direction.)*

Participants travel north from Phoenix through Verde Valley, then east to Fossil Creek, where they will learn the remarkable story of Fossil Creek and the ecological effects of a 100-year old dam, hydroelectric facility and the success of its restoration for people and native species. Participants will have an opportunity to fish for Roundtail Chub and Headwater Chub either using a fly rod or barbless hook lure on a spinning rod. Your guide for the Fossil Creek Study tour will be Dave Weedman, Aquatic Habitat Program Supervisor, Phoenix Office, AZGFD. To view a YouTube video of the Fossil Creek Renovation story, click on the following link. [Arizona Fossil Creek Fishing - YouTube](#)

5 to 10 participants

\$15.00-Registration Fee (Box Lunch provided)

Urban Fishing Program Field Study

Arizona's Urban Fishing Program is recognized nationally as one of the best in the country. The Urban Fishing Program is a cooperative effort between 11 different cities within Arizona. The program is supported by the sale of Urban Fishing Licenses and from fees from the city parks and recreation departments. This field study will visit several different urban program lakes within the phoenix metropolitan area to illustrate how and why this award winning program is such a success story for the Arizona Game and Fish Department. Your guide and host for the Urban Fishing Program tour will be Eric Swanson, Urban Fisheries Program Manager, Phoenix Office, AZGFD.

5 to 10 participants

\$15.00-Registration Fee (Box Lunch provided)

Ben Avery Shooting Facility Tour and

Grand Opening Ceremony of Hirsch Conservation Education Area

The **Ben Avery Shooting Range Facility** (BASF) is one of the largest public-operated recreational shooting facilities in the country (1600+ acres). The facility is a world-class shooting venue, with a 5-star rating from the National Association of Shooting Ranges, and designated as a City of Phoenix Point of Pride. Participants will take part in the Grand Opening Ceremony of Hirsch Conservation Education Area and afterwards drop a line to catch a “show pond” size largemouth bass, bluegills and channel catfish. After lunch participants will have an opportunity to shoot sporting clays at our **Clay Target Center**, practice archery or shoot air guns at our indoor Air Gun Range before returning to the Embassy Suites.

5 to 30 participants

\$15.00-Registration Fee (Box Lunch provided)